



AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

JAMES J. BENEDICT ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/748,038

Filed: December 22, 2000

For: METHOD OF PROMOTING NATURAL
BYPASS

Confirmation No.: 4147

Group Art Unit: 1654

Examiner: Jeffrey E. Russel

Attorney Docket: 2103.013900/RFE
(SBI-042-CIP)

CUSTOMER NO. 45488

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116;
RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 16, 2004**

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

June 14, 2005


Cynde Meinhardt

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered in the captioned patent application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Applicants submit the foregoing amendments to place the case in even better condition for allowance or appeal.

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office Action dated December 16, 2004, for which the three-month date for response was March 16, 2005.

A request for a three-month extension of time to respond is included herewith along with the required fee. This three-month extension will bring the due date to June 16, 2005, which is within the six-month statutory period. Should such request or fee be deficient or absent, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2103.013900RE.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.